Volume 108, Number 7 July 2020



# THIS MONTH IN THE CRIER

Board of Managers Sworn in; Officers Selected2
Continue to Contact Village Administrative Staff as
Teleworking Continues
Reminder to Pedestrians: Cross Conn Ave w/ Care3
Board Actions - June 8, 20204
The Police Beat
Community News
Village Teens
Census 2020: It is Not Too Late to be Counted7

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Monday, July 13, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Board of Managers' Meeting
TO BE CONDUCTED VIRTUALLY

The Village Hall remains closed to the public as a result of the COVID-19 health emergency.

Please call our 24-hour Communications Center at (301) 654-7300 should you need assistance.

Thank you for your cooperation.

All activities and classes have been canceled through the end of August. Please enroll in the Village's blast email network for the latest information and updates regarding Village operations.

# September 2020 Appeal/Variance Deadline: Mon., Aug. 24 by 5:00 PM

5906 Connecticut Avenue Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815 phone: 301.654.7300 fax: 301.907.9721

email: ccv@montgomerycountymd.gov website: www.chevychasevillagemd.gov

### **COVID-19:** ECONOMIC IMPACTS

The economic impacts from COVID-19 have begun to cause—and will continue to have—lasting impacts on local, national and worldwide economies.

Municipal governments are certainly not immune from these impacts. The Village has seen increased operations expenses related to essential personnel compensation, sanitizing of municipal vehicles and buildings, teleworking expenses and personal protective equipment for essential personnel. These expenses have

Continued on Page 3, right column....

#### SAFE DISPOSAL OF HAZARDOUS WASTE

If spring cleaning or the stay at home orders inspired you to clean out the basement or toolshed, please be cognizant of proper disposal of hazardous waste.

The Village's Public Works Department provides a monthly hazardous waste collection service on the second Wednesday of each month. To arrange for a hazardous waste pickup, residents must contact the Village Communications Center or request a pickup through the Village website by no later than 2 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding the pickup. Residents must specify the type and quantity of hazardous materials requested for pickup and label all material for Village collection.

The Village collects all containers of garden chemicals, corrosive household cleaners, motor oil, and oil-based paint. Hazardous items must be transported to the County's Transfer Station. For a full list of what the County

Continued at the bottom of 4, right column....

### SUMMER COMMUNITY EVENTS, CANCELED

Due to the continued local impact of COVID-19, the following summer community events have been canceled:

- July 4 Parade & Party at the Large Oliver St. Park
- National Night Out in Newlands Park

This difficult decision was made to limit the opportunities for local transmission of the virus given that these events are typically attended by many in the community. We join local communities that have also taken steps to limit large gatherings over the summer. No decisions have yet been made regarding events currently scheduled for the fall.

# BOARD OF MANAGERS SWORN IN AND OFFICERS SELECTED

The three reelected members of the Board—Robert Goodwin, Jr. Elissa Leonard and Nancy Watters—were sworn in on Wednesday, June 3 on the porch of the Village Hall. The oath of office ceremony was conducted by Montgomery County Clerk of the Court, Ms. Barbara Meiklejohn.

Newly elected and reelected members of the Board of Managers are normally sworn in during the Board's regular meeting in June; however, the Board's June meeting was conducted virtually and the oath of office is required by law to be conducted in person. To accommodate this requirement, the oath of office was administered in a manner that allowed interested members of the public to attend.

At the start of the Village Board's June 8 regular meeting, the Board elected from amongst its members individuals to serve in the officer positions established in the Village's Charter. Members serve two-year, staggered terms and officer positions are reestablished each year. The following is a complete list of the current Board, including the officer positions:

Elissa A. Leonard, Chair

elissa. leonard@chevychasevillagemd.gov

Robert C. Goodwin, Jr., Vice Chair

robert.goodwin@chevychasevillagemd.gov

Gary Crockett, Treasurer

gary.crockett@chevychasevillagemd.gov

Nancy E. Watters, Assistant Treasurer

nancy. watters @ chevy chase village md. gov

**David L. Winstead, Secretary** david.winstead@chevychasevillagemd.gov

Richard Ruda, Assistant Secretary

richard.ruda@chevychasevillagemd.gov

Linda Willard, Member

linda.willard@chevychasevillagemd.gov

# FOLLOW CHEVY CHASE VILLAGE ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER!!

https://www.facebook.com/CCVillage https://twitter.com/chevychasevill



# CONTINUE TO CONTACT VILLAGE ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF AS TELEWORKING CONTINUES

Although some county and state governments are beginning their reopening plans, given the size and duties of the Village's administrative team, we have not yet established a reopening date. Once we do reopen, staff will be working a staggered schedule to reduce the numbers of staff working in the building at any given time. Changes in in-person staffing will be announced and updated on the Village website and in our weekly blast email.

In the interim, residents who need to speak with a staffer by phone may email the staffer and request a call back or call the Village Hall and leave a message to be returned by the staffer. Email addresses for the administrative staff are provided below for ease of reference:

#### General Information, Hall Rentals, Website Access, Resident Directory, Crier, etc.

Ruby Brown,

Administrative & Constituent Services Assistant ccv@montgomerycountymd.gov

### Permitting, Code Enforcement and Plan Review

Jessica Gebhart,

Permitting & Code Enforcement Coordinator ccvpermitting@montgomerycountymd.gov

#### Contracts, Public Rights-of-Way, Parks and Other Public Spaces, Utility Coordination

Ellen Sands, Director of Municipal Operations ellen.sands@montgomerycountymd.gov

#### Finance and Accounting

Demetri Protos, Finance Director demetri.protos@montgomerycountymd.gov

As always, residents may also feel free to contact Village Manager Shana Davis-Cook at shana.davis-cook@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Decisions regarding reopening are solely based on determining what in-office operations and services can be provided while maintaining our staff's and the public's health and safety.

As we all adjust to a new normal, we anticipate a gradual reopening with ongoing reassessments of local health data and county health department direction. For now, public health guidance recommends that those who can telework should continue to do so.

If you have questions regarding the status of Village operations, email ccv@montgomerycountymd.gov.

### Do I NEED A PERMIT



If you are thinking of starting a renovation, building, or landscape project, please be sure to contact the Village office for information as to what permits may be required. There

are County and Village building regulations that may apply.

Please contact the Permitting & Code Enforcement Coordinator, Jessica Gebhart, at (301) 654-7300 or ccvpermitting@montgomerycountymd.gov.

# REMINDER TO PEDESTRIANS: CROSS CONNECTICUT AVENUE WITH CAUTION

While we await more information regarding the State Highway Administration's plans for a three-color signal at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Lenox Street, we remind pedestrians to CROSS WITH CAUTION. The current flashing beacons are NOT A FULLY ACTUATED SIGNAL, therefore, THERE IS NO RED LIGHT that will signal drivers along Connecticut Avenue to stop.

When using the crosswalk, please remember the following:

- Wait for a break in traffic.
- Press the button to activate the yellow flashing beacons.
- An audible message will play alerting you that the flashing beacons have been activated (please remove earbuds and headphones so you can hear this message) and will continue for the duration of the flashers' activation: "Yellow flashers activated for Connecticut; cross with caution".
- TRAFFIC IS NOT REQUIRED TO STOP unless a pedestrian is within the crosswalk.
- DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CROSS UNLESS YOU ARE SURE THAT IT IS SAFE TO DO SO.
- The flashing beacons may stop flashing before you are able to completely cross Connecticut Avenue. The beacons are programmed to flash for 32 seconds, which may not provide sufficient time for pedestrians to wait until it is safe to cross and safely do so.

Village Police continue to periodically monitor driver compliance. It is abundantly important that pedestrians use the crosswalk with utmost care and caution and that drivers heed the flashing lights and remain alert for pedestrians in the crosswalk.

...continued from the cover article, "COVID-19: Economic Impacts"

been partially offset by lower office supply usage, cancellation of attendance at meetings and conferences, and cancellation of Village events.

In addition to increased expenses, the Village's revenue may be affected. Our largest revenue source is the Village's share of our residents' state income tax. Because of the way that income tax is distributed to municipalities, we won't see any effect on our revenue until calendar year 2021, and presently we have no way to estimate how large that effect might be.

During its April regular meeting, the Board discussed likely economic impacts to the Village's budget. A report from staff outlined anticipated fiscal impacts within the FY2020 and FY2021 budgets resulting from the COVID-19 health emergency. The Board agreed that it is too early to gauge the full severity or areas for additional impacts to the Village's budget.

The Village's reserves—which are expected to exceed \$10 million to start FY2021—can shoulder any short-term revenue losses. Additionally, the Village is expected to receive an approximate 75% reimbursement for qualified expenses under the Coronavirus Relief Fund established by the federal government under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, allocations from which are administered by the State of Maryland and Montgomery County.

Nonetheless, the Village Board and management will continue to monitor economic forecasting at the county, state and national levels. Expenditures will be reviewed thoroughly as we practice austerity through the coming fiscal year. While no budget cuts are planned for FY2021, the Village's FY2022 budget may require some fiscal belt tightening to weather the long-term impacts from the pandemic.

## Join the Village Listsery on Groups.10

CCVillage@Groups.io is the community mailing list for residents of Chevy Chase Village. To join, visit https://groups.io/g/CCVillage and clicking on the blue "+ Join This Group" button. Once enrolled, the email address to submit messages to the mailing list is ccvillage@groups.io.



The CCVillage information website is at http://CCVillage.info. For assistance with joining or posting messages, please contact moderator and Village resident Tim Slagle at ccvillage+owner@groups.io.

### **BOARD ACTIONS:**

June 8, 2020 Board of Managers' Meeting

#### Election of Officers

The Election of Officers followed (see article on page 2 of this issue for the full listing).

#### **Board Appointment of Building Officer**

Board appointment of Gary Crockett to serve as Building Officer - approved

#### Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes:

May 11, 2020 Regular Meeting - approved

#### Special Permit and Variance Requests:

#### A-7715 (Variance) 37 Quincy Street

Replace portions of an existing fence measuring four (4) feet in height with a fence measuring six (6) feet in height. The fence would be located along the north property line beginning at the twenty-five (25) foot front (Brookville Road) building restriction line (BRL), for a length of twenty-five feet ending at the east property line. The fence would continue along the east property line for a length of fifty-five (55) feet, terminating at a point in line with the rear line of the main dwelling *- approved* 

#### Matters for Board Discussion and Possible Adoption

Village Hall Janitorial - approved emergency six-month extension of the existing contract with P&R Enterprises, Inc.

Consulting Arborist - approved initial three-year contract with Feather & Associates.

#### Commission & Committee Matters

#### Board Appointments of Members to Serve on the Local Advisory Panel to the Historic Preservation Commission:

Board appointment of Susan Bollendorf (Primrose Street), Tony Marra (West Kirke Street) and Myra Kovey (West Irving Street) to serve as members (subject to approval by the Historic Preservation Commission) - approved.

This is a synopsis of the Board's actions. To view an archive of the approved minutes, or to watch video recordings of the most recent Board Meetings, please visit the Village website: www.chevychasevillagemd.gov by clicking on "Board of Managers Meetings" under the header "Quick Links" on the homepage.

#### Next Regular Board of Managers' Meeting: Monday, July 13, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

**NOTE:** This meeting will be held virtually with members of the Board of Managers, staff and the public participating by phone or video. Access information for this meeting will be posted to the Village website and included in the weekly blast email on July 10.

# OUTSIDE LITTLE LENDING LIBRARY ACCESSIBLE AT THE VILLAGE HALL

The Little Lending Libraries at the Village Hall have been in place for almost four years now and we are so pleased to have this great program here in our community. The concept behind these libraries is a book-sharing honor system in which neighbors take and leave books of interest for one another.

While the Hall remains closed to the public due to COVID-19, the library located on the porch off on the Laurel Parkway side of the building remains stocked and available for residents to take and leave a book of their choosing.

We are always looking for donations, so please feel free to donate a book or two today!

...continued from the cover article, "Safe Disposal of Hazardous Waste" will accept, visit the county's website at

www.montgomerycountymd.gov and search for "Household Hazardous Waste". For program cost-effectiveness, residents who have individual items (i.e., fluorescent lights bulbs, etc.) are encouraged to request a hazardous waste pickup once multiple items have been accumulated and items should be placed in an easily accessible outside location away from other items scheduled for special pick-up.

Montgomery County does not accept latex-based paint in its Hazardous Waste Program. If you have cans of latex paint, the cans must be completely dried before placing them in your regular trash. For information regarding the Village's disposal policy for latex paint, visit the Village website and search "Latex Paint Disposal Policy".

Help us help the environment- it's the law and it's the safe thing to do.

# THE POLICE BEAT

E-mail Police Chief John M. Fitzgerald: john.m.fitzgerald@montgomerycountymd.gov

# PLEASE LOCK YOUR HOME! SECURE ALL DOORS AND WINDOWS



The Chevy Chase Village Police Department offers a house check service to residents whose homes will be unoccupied for a period of 24 hours or longer. When our officers perform a house check, they walk the entire outside perimeter of the

structure to make sure that all doors and windows within reach are securely closed and locked.

Recently, while performing house checks, our officers have discovered several unsecured homes. When an officer discovers an unlocked door or window, a second officer responds to assist. Both officers enter the home and they then walk through the entire home to determine if anyone is inside and they make sure that the home hasn't been burglarized. The officers then make every effort to lock the house on their way out (which is not always easy or possible), they leave documentation inside the home, and our Communications Center attempts to contact the homeowner. An unlocked door or window not only is an invitation to crime, it creates a significant and unnecessary workload for our police department.

Since only a fraction of Village homes are on the list of house checks at any given time, there may be many more unsecured homes in the Village that are not discovered by our officers. Whenever you leave your home—whether you are on the way to work, to the store, or to a long vacation—please lock all doors and windows and activate your alarm system. And if you have a deadbolt lock, use it. A locking door knob will not keep a burglar out. And if you're going on a trip, please call us to set up a house check—you can do it online, over the phone, or in person. Give our Communications Center a call at 301-654-7300 if you have any questions. Have a safe summer!

# Our Key Program Only Works IF WE HAVE YOUR KEY!

If you have not already done so, please return your house key in case you or a family member gets locked out and so Village Police personnel can access your home in case of an emergency.

#### CONSTRUCTION AND LANDSCAPING NOISE:

Please adhere to the start/stop times in the Village Code

Recently, Village Police have responded to an increased number of early morning and evening construction and lawn crew noise complaints. Noise from these sources at prohibited times is not only illegal, it is a nuisance to neighbors.



Residents are encouraged to remind their construction and lawn contractors that the Village noise ordinance prohibits noise from power landscaping equipment and any construction-related noise prior to 8:00 a.m. on weekdays, prior to 9:00 a.m. on weekends and holidays, and after 6:00 p.m. every day. Violations of the Village noise law are enforced by a civil citation and fine.

#### REMEMBER: DON'T DRIVE DISTRACTED

'Hands free' means just that: You can't use your hands to hold your phone—even when it's on speaker

It seems that some drivers just can't help it—they just have to make or answer that call or read or send that text while they're driving. When that smart phone vibrates or makes a noise, some folks have no will power—they go to the phone the way Pavlov's dog reacted to the ringing of the bell. If this describes you, please stop. You are endangering yourself and others. It's selfish, it's unsafe, and by the way, it's illegal.

If you cannot trust yourself to refrain from handling or looking at your smart phone while you are in control of a vehicle, then either turn it off or put it out of reach before you start driving. If you absolutely must use your phone while you are in your car, then stop in a safe place (a parking lot or a side street—not in a place that will impede traffic), put the car in 'park' and make/receive that communication. And remember:



## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

### THE SENIOR CORNER

As all of you know, our beautiful Village Hall remains closed to the community. Because of this, all of the events that I had planned for Seniors have been postponed until the war on this terrible virus has been won.

I continue to miss you, and am thinking of you.

All of our programs are brought to you in cooperation with Chevy Chase@Home and Chevy Chase Village. We welcome suggestions for future events. E-mail me at bettyoconnor2@verizon.net or call 301-656-0597.

Peace and Love to All, Betty O'Connor, Chair, Committee for Seniors

### BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED: JUNE 2020

29 West Irving Street - Install drainage pipe in the ROW

3931 Oliver Street - Rear addition, screened porch, stoop

5600 Cedar Parkway - Construct fence in ROW

5804 Cedar Parkway - Install irrigation system in ROW

27 West Irving Street - Construct fence

5514 Western Avenue - Replace fence

5509 Grove Street - Replace fence

5514 Western Avenue - Replace wood deck with brick patio

5804 Cedar Parkway - Replace stepping stone path

6134 Nevada Avenue - Install two patios

4 West Kirke Street - Install pipe in the ROW

27 Primrose Street - Install a non-permanent spa

9 West Irving Street - Replace storm drain pipe in ROW

24 Hesketh Street - Construct stairs in the ROW

14 West Kirke Street - In-kind driveway replacement

5511 Park Street - Install A/C unit

9 West Irving Street - Construct fence

5601 Kirkside Drive - Drywell maintenance and repair

117 Oxford Street - In-kind fence replacement

26 Oxford Street - Replace 2 A/C units, install 2 A/C units

24 West Kirke Street - Install A/C Unit

3917 Oliver St. - Replace side yard fence, new rear yard fence

4 Quincy St. - Retaining wall, flagstone patio and walkways

### SIGN UP FOR EMAIL BLAST(S)

Now more than ever, it is critical for all Village residents to subscribe to the Village's email blasts. Since the beginning

of the local health crisis, staff has circulated a weekly email containing information regarding Village and, where appropriate, county and state-level developments.



The Village operates two email distribution lists to deliver information to residents:

**Urgent News Blast** are emergency alerts that are sent only on an as-needed basis. Alerts include water main breaks, power outages, operations closures and public safety alerts.

**General News Blast**, which are geared toward community events, Board Meetings, etc. will be sent out weekly.

To subscribe, visit www.chevychasevillagemd.gov and click **Notify Me** on the homepage (look for the image at the top).

Sign-up for the Village Email Blasts and encourage your neighbors to do the same!

### WHEN THE POWER GOES OUT

In addition to its telephone call-in number and website information, Pepco has introduced a mobile app which provides updates to keep customers informed during a storm. Users can report outages, view outage maps, pay bills and access other services.

Visit pepco.com/mobileapp to download the mobile app.

Pepco has also added a new feature that allows customers to report a live outage by text via their mobile device. Registered Pepco customers can text "Out" to "48710". Customers must first text "ADD OUTAGE" to "48710" from a phone linked to their account to sign up for the text service.

If a severe storm hits, Pepco follows a strategic response plan to restore service to the greatest number of customers first and will work to restore all service as quickly and safely as possible. Customers are asked to immediately report a downed wire or service issue by calling 1-877-PEPCO-62 (877-737-2662), visiting pepco.com or through the new mobile app and text option.

Residents should also inform the Village of any outages by calling our Communications Center at (301 654-7300.

V	VILLAGE TEENS  Village teens are available for a variety of services. Please email the Village office at   ccv@montgomerycountymd.gov to add a teen to the list and to make changes.
List av	ailable in the print version that is mailed to residents

The response rate for the Village was approaching 85% as this issue of the *Crier* went to print. Why respond? The census determines congressional representation and is a key factor in determining how billions in federal funding is allocated. The census numbers provided today will impact our community for the next decade. Households that haven't received their invitation (or can't find it) can still respond online—even without their invitation or Census identification—by providing their address. To respond online, please visit www.2020Census.gov or use 844-330-2020 to respond by phone.



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# Have a Safe and Happy Summer!

#### **BOARD OF MANAGERS**

Elissa Leonard- Chair
Robert C. Goodwin, Jr. - Vice-Chair
David L. Winstead - Secretary
Richard M. Ruda - Assistant Secretary
Gary Crockett - Treasurer
Nancy E. Watters - Assistant Treasurer
Linda J. Willard- Board Member

#### VILLAGE MANAGER

Shana R. Davis-Cook

# Trash & Recycling Collection; Special Pick-Ups



Resident input regarding the contracted services for trash and recycling collection is an important factor during the evaluation of these services. Please contact the Village office to provide your feedback.

The Village provides rear door collection of refuse and recycling as a convenience to our residents. Please leave

your gates unlocked to allow access to your receptacles and remember to contact the Communications Center if either your refuse or recycling were not collected.

**Special Pickups** of bulk items are collected on Wednesdays. Requests must be submitted either by phone or through the Village website by 2:00 p.m. on the preceding Tuesday to ensure collection.

#### HOLIDAY COLLECTION SCHEDULE FOR REFUSE AND RECYCLING

Collection will not be impacted during the week of June 28 through July 4, because the holiday falls on a Saturday.

# HOLIDAY COLLECTION SCHEDULE FOR REFUSE AND RECYCLING

Week of Labor Day: September 7 - 12, 2020

IF YOUR NORMAL COLLECTION DAY IS	Your collection day will be
Monday	Tuesday (9/8)
Tuesday	Wednesday (9/9)
Wednesday	Thursday (9/10)
Thursday	Friday (9/11)
Friday	Saturday (9/12)

#### HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The Administrative office and Public Works Department will be <u>closed</u> on **Friday**, **July 3** in observance of Independence Day and on **Monday**, **September 7** in observance of Labor Day. The Communications Center and Police Department remain staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week.